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Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAIRO 10292 162015Z

65/41
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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P 151531Z OCT 75
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7197

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 10292

EXDIS

DEPT PASS PRIORITY OSD/ISA WASHDC

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y FOR MRN 10292 VICE 00292

E.OO. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR EG US MASS
SUBJECT: EXPORT LICENSE FOR COLLINS RADIO

REF A. CAIRO 9990; B. STATE 240722

1. HAVE TODAY RECEIVED COMMERCIAL TELEGRAM FROM MCKELLAR OF COLLINS RADIO, WHO IS CURRENTLY IN LONDON, RECALLING EARLIER MEETING WITH EMBOFFS (REF A) RE EXPORT LICENSING OF CERTAIN AVIONIC EQUIPMENT FOR INSTALLATION IN EGYPTIAN AF ANTONOV-12 AIRCRAFT. ALLEGEDLY AIRCRAFT ARE TO ACCOMPANY SADAT'TS AIRCRAFT ON HIS VISIT TO THE US. MCKELLAR NOTES NO POSITIVE RESULTS YET RECEIVED AND REQUESTS THIS EMBASSY URGENTLY RECOMMEND TO DEPT THAT NECESSARY EXPORT LICENSE BE ISSUED. HE BELIEVES FAILURE TO DO SO COULD PREVENT FUGURE SALES TO EGYPTIAN AIR FORCE BY US MANUFACTURERS AND REESTABLISH FOREIGN COMPETITION.

2. SHORTLY AFTER REF A SENT, MCKELLAR TELEPHONED EMBASSY TO INFORM EXPORT LICENSE HAS BEEN APPROVED FOR CERTAIN ITEMS -- SPECIFICALLY; NAVIGATION
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SYSTEM, DISTANCE MEASURING EQUIPMENT, NAVIGATIONAL

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CONTROLLERS AND ADDITIONAL DME INDICATORS.

3. SUBSEQUENTLY, AIRA CONVEYED TO COLLINS REP DEPT SUGGESTION THAT IT TRY TO GET SHORT TERM EXTENSION TO CONTRACT. THERE WAS NO REACTION.

4. ON OCTOBER 14, ANOTHER COLLINS REP CALLED TO DISCUSS THE PROJECT. NOTING THAT THE EQUIPMENT FOR WHICH EXPORT LICENSES ARE BEING SOUGHT WAS SUBMITTED OR ACTED UPON -- HE WAS NOT SURE WHICH -- IN TWO LISTS, HE EXPRESSED PUZZLEMENT ABOUT THE LOGIC BEGHIND WHAT HAS AND HAS NOT BEEN APPROVED. STILL UNAPPROVED ARE COMPASS SYSTEM, AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM, COURSE INDICATORS AND RADIO MAGNETIC INDICATORS. EGYPTIANS ARE PRESSING COLLINS TO PROCEED WITH WIRING WHILE AWAITING APPROVAL, BUT COLLINS DOES NOT INTEND TO RESPOND. IT HAS, HOWEVER, ASSEMBLED TWO SETS OF WIRING HARNESS, BUT HAS NOT DELIVERED THEM.

5. COMMENT: WE HAVE NOT BEEN APPROACHED DIRECTLY BY EGYPTIANS ON THIS MATTER, BUT HAVE NO REASON TO DISBELIEVE COLLINS' ACCOUNT. SINCE SOME ITEMS ON LISTHAVE APPARENTLY BEEN APPROVED, WE WOULD APPRECIATE AN INDICATION OF WHETHER THESE WERE DELIBERATELY CULLED FROM THE OVERALL LIST AND, IF SO, WHY SOME ITEMS APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN APPROVED AND SOME NOT. IT SEEMS TO US THAT THE ITEMS ALREADY APPROVED DO NOT FALL INTO ANY DIFFERENT CATEGORY THAN THOSE NOT YET APPROVED. IF THIS IS INDEED THE CASE, WE RECOMMEND THAT ANOTHER LOOK BE TAKEN AT APPROVING THE REMAINING ITEMS ASAP. FOR EXAMPLE, IT HARDLY MAKES GOOD SENSE TO APPROVE A NAVIGATIONAL SYSTEM AND REFUSE THE COMPASS.

6. IN ANSWER MCKELLAR'S COMMERCIAL TELEGRAM, WE PROPOSE INFORM LOCAL COLLINS' REP THAT WE HAVE BEEN AGAIN SUBMITTED MATTER TO DEPT WITH CONFIDENTIAL

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REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION.
EILTS

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